The Roberts HAZMAT Training Center

The Roberts HAZMAT Training Center is an appropriate recognition for a true HAZMAT professional.

Alan I Roberts began his career in HAZMAT working for the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC). After graduating from The Pennsylvania State University with a major in transportation in June of 1960, he and his young family moved to Iowa where he started work as an ICC inspector. Having spent years in the field, the ICC transferred Al and his family to Washington, D.C. Later, when the U.S. Department of Transportation was created in the late 1960’s, Al was recruited to a position that would eventually occupy his time for more than 30 years. He became the Associate Administrator of the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS). In that role he championed regulations that were tough, but fair. He listened to the enforcers of the rules as well as industry and provided training to assist in compliance. By listening, he encouraged his employees to raise their own voices about their concerns and ideas. He is the kind of leader who inspired all who worked with him by setting an example of complete dedication to safety.

Al’s work to enhance safety extended beyond the jurisdiction of the United States. He was elected to the presidency of the United Nations Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, which provides guidance for handling hazardous shipments wherever they may occur throughout the world.

Even after his federal career ended in 1999, when he retired as Associate Administrator of RSPA, he was persuaded to lead the Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC) as its president.

Al has had a remarkable career with more than 54 years of service dedicated to making the world a safer Place. It is truly fitting that this HAZMAT Training Center be recognized as the Roberts HAZMAT Training Center.

Stacey Gerard Carl T Johnson

Chief Safety Officer (retired) Administrator (former)

US DOT, PHMSA US DOT PHMSA